



For Immediate Release

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Wheat Growers Look Forward to Gaining Marketing Freedom

The Western Canadian Wheat Growers Association congratulates the Conservative Party on being re-elected to a minority federal government and looks forward to working with all parties in developing policies to improve the prosperity of prairie farmers.

“This renewed mandate will allow the Conservative government to move forward decisively in finally giving prairie farmers the freedom to market our own grain,” says Mike Bast, Chair of the Wheat Growers. “We will be seeking immediate legislation to remove the CWB’s monopoly over western farmers.”

The Wheat Growers note the Conservative Party won virtually all seats in rural western Canada on a platform that included a call for marketing choice on both wheat and barley.

The Wheat Growers call on all Parliamentarians to give western farmers the same grain marketing freedom that is now enjoyed by farmers in other parts of the country. If that co-operation is not forthcoming from opposition parties, the Wheat Growers will urge the Conservative government to introduce a confidence motion on legislation to remove the CWB monopoly.

The Wheat Growers also welcome the promised reduction in diesel fuel taxes and hope the new Parliament will take other measures to improve the competitiveness of Canadian farmers in these uncertain markets.

“Certainly high farm input costs are a key concern,” says Bast. “We’ll be looking to the federal government to reduce the tax and regulatory burden, as well as ensuring barriers to imports of fertilizer, chemical and seed are reduced.”

Other policy initiatives where the Wheat Growers will be seeking progress include the rail service review, Canadian Grain Commission reforms and modernization of Canada’s seed registration system.

For further comment, please contact,

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